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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/929,971	08/15/2001	James S. Smith	309.019	2160

23526 7590 04/23/2003
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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

PHAM, LEDA T

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/929,971	SMITH, JAMES S.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Leda T. Pham	2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3,4,10,13,14,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 2,5-9,11,12 and 15-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of group I, claims 1 - 19 in Paper filed on 3/11/03 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 20 – 29 have been canceled.
3. Since Applicant did not provide any traversal arguments to the restriction requirement, the response is considered as election without traverse; therefore, the election/restriction is made FINAL.

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: line 30 page 10, "rotor assemblies 49" does not show in figure. Line 24 page 11, "stub shafts 46" should be change to –stub shafts 36--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: "arcuate" is misspelled. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 3 – 4, 10, 13 – 14, and 18 – 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Noddleman (U.S. Patent No. 3,979,821).

Noodleman teaches a rotor assembly for an electromechanical machine (figure 1), comprising a rotor collectable to a shaft for rotational movement therewith, the rotor extending along an axis and having first and second circumferentially spaced lobes projecting radially therefrom (figure 8b); first and second sets of laminated pole pieces, each set of pole pieces receivable on a corresponding lobe (200); and a magnet disposed between the sets of poles pieces (203).

Referring to claim 3, Noodleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein each lobe projecting from the rotor includes a neck terminating at an enlarged head (figure 8a, 202).

Referring to claim 4, Noodleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein each of the laminated pole pieces is generally C-shaped and includes first and second ends separated by a predetermined distance for accommodating the neck of a corresponding lobe therebetween (figure 8b).

Referring to claim 10, Noodleman teaches a rotor assembly for an electromechanical machine (figure 1) comprising a rotor collectable to a shaft for rotational movement therewith, the rotor extending along an axis and having a plurality of circumferentially spaced lobes projecting radially therefrom (figure 8b), a plurality of ring assemblies supported on the rotor (figure 8a), each ring assembly including a plurality of circumstantially spaced poles supported on corresponding lobes, and a plurality of magnets (203) circumferentially spaced about the rotor and extending through the ring assemblies, each magnet being generally parallel to the axis of the rotor and being disposed between corresponding pairs of poles of each ring assembly.

Referring to claim 13, Noodleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein each of the poles of each ring assembly includes a plurality of laminated pole pieces (figure 8b).

Referring to claim 14, Noddleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein the rotor includes first and second ends and wherein one of the plurality of ring assemblies is positioned adjacent the first end of the rotor.

Referring to claim 18, Noddleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein each of the laminated pole pieces includes a generally actuate, radially outer edge (figure 8a).

Referring to claim 19, Noddleman teaches the rotor assembly wherein each of the laminated pole pieces includes a leading edge and a trailing edge which are asymmetrical.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 2, 5 – 9, 11 – 12, 15 – 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leda T. Pham whose telephone number is (703) 305-4864. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-5:00) first Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-9176 for regular communications and (703) 305-1341 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-3431.

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Leda T. Pham
Examiner
Art Unit 2834

LTP
April 17, 2003



DANG LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER